

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 00563 281132Z

51

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 /018 W

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R 280915Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1170

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FOR NEA/PAB: SCHIFFERDECKER PASS BECHTEL

E.O 11652: N/A

TAGS: BMEF, AF

SUBJ: BECHTEL AND MAJOR PROJECTS

REF: A. STATE 12342; B. KABUL 7828

1. GOA MOVING WITH ISLAMIC BLINDING SPEED ON TEN PROJECTS OUTLINED REF B. CONTACTS FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR KANDAHAR WOOL AND COTTON FACTORIES ALREADY WON BY JAPANESE. FRENCH JANUARY 28 ARE TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR STUDY OF KANDAHAR CEMENT FACTORY. ALL THREE STUDIES WILL BE COMPLETED WITHIN SIX WEEKS ACCORDING TO TOUFIQI.

2. GOA HAS SET MARCH 20 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS ON REMAINING SEVEN PROJECTS . TOUFIQI WANTS LUMP SUM BIDS FOR STUDIES. HE HOPES HAVE STUDIES COMPLETED WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER CONTRACTS ARE AWARDED.

3. FOR BECHTEL: TOUFIQI DID NOT RETURN TO WORK UNTIL JANUARY 26 AFTER USSR TRIP. APPARENTLY BECHTEL'S CABLE OF JANUARY 14 DID NOT REACH TOUFIQI BUT POST FEELS TIME IS RIGHT FOR BECHTEL REP VISIT, PARTICULARLY CONSIDERING HERETOFORE UNKNOWN MARCH 20 DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS.

4. SUGGEST IN FUTURE BECHTEL COMMUNICATE WITH TOUFIQI THROUGH EMBASSY.

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